Volume XIX DECEMBER, 1901 No. 12

Luther League Review

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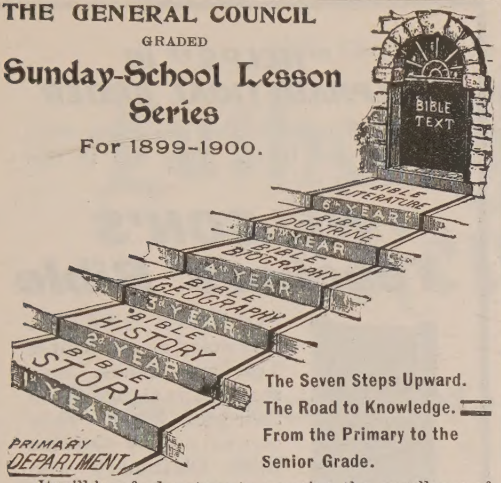

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Luther League Review

Passavant Memorial Hospital

By Rev. W. L. Hunton, Ph.D.

THE Passavant Memorial Hospital of Chicago is one of the numerous monuments to the prayers and self-sacrificing labors of the Father of American Protestant Institutions of Mercy, the late Rev. Dr. Passavant.

In the light of its checkered and eventful history, the prosperous institution of to-day, with its complete equipment and competent staff of physicians, surgeons and nurses, is a lively illustration of the truth of Scripture, for certainly the founder and friends of Passavant Memorial Hospital have overcome mountains by implicit and enduring faith.

It was on Melanchthon's birthday, February 16, 1865, that the late Dr. Passavant introduced the subject of a hospital for Chicago at the annual meeting of the institution of Protestant Deaconesses of Alleghany County, Pa. The following July the "Deconesse Hospital" began its work "in hu-

mility and poverty" with two Christian women, from the Pittsburgh Infirmary and the Milwaukee Hospital respectively, in charge. The first patient was a Swedish woman; the second a little son of an immigrant. An empty treasury, pressing debts, discouraged helpers, and even the suggestion by the board to abandon the work, did not dishearten the man who founded, and with indomitable tenacity continued to labor, never doubting that God would send deliverance.

Interest in "the little hospital" and the sacrificing efforts of its director was gradually awakened in some of Chicago's public spirited and benevolent citizens. The hospital was incorporated, and with the loyal support of liberal friends, particularly E. B. McCagg, Esq., better days were dawning.

A valuable plot of ground near the lake shore and Lincoln Park, a subscription of $30,000 and a legacy of $5,000 were assuring the reward of the prayers, faith and efforts of years, when the Chicago fire in 1871 laid the hospital in ruins, and the director sold all that the fire left for $8.50.

The work was interrupted for 14 years. December, 1885, the present building was erected. Since that time there has been a gradual but steady growth and a constant increase in influence and widening of its circle of friends. The building, at first called "Emergency," was originally intended to be a branch of a general hospital to be located in Lake View, to care for accident and emergency cases, but it has grown into a well equipped and prosperous general hospital, and to avoid the misapprehension which many had through the name, after the death of the late Dr. Passavant, which occurred in 1894, the board very properly linked with this noble work of mercy the name of its founder, calling it "The Passavant Memorial Hospital."

The capacity has been increased from time to time, "the staff" has been enlarged, and numerous internal improvements have been made. At this writing a large addition is practically complete, and, when opened, will give largely increased facilities for carrying on the blessed work which is being so well done.

A most excellent Training School for Nurses is maintained. Instruction is here given by some of the best medical men in the city, and young women who wish to become trained nurses, with a thorough knowledge of how to care for patients, whether the cases be surgical or medical, will find the Passavant Hospital a most excellent place. With the new diet kitchen and the opportunity for instruction in obstetrics there is nothing lacking for a complete training from a professional point of view. A Christian institution, providing regular devotional service as well as biblical instruction, the young woman who wishes to become an *efficient Christian nurse* will find here a model school. There are more than enough applicants; but probably through a lack of proper information our own Lutheran girls, who are naturally preferred, are not in the majority. We believe that the vacancies soon to be found through graduation of the senior class will be filled by our own Church girls, if they know of this great and good work done in the Passavant Memorial Hospital.

At the present time the cost of maintenance is about $15,000. This fact and the consideration that a large proportion of the patients are "charity" speaks well for the wise management of those who direct its affairs, together with the liberal charity of its many friends and supporters, the larger number and more liberal of whom are public spirited people of commercial Chicago, reputed to be mere money lovers and money makers. Our observation is that they have great hearts and open pocket books when a noble work appeals to them in a dignified way.

The Lutheran women maintain a Hospital Aid Society. It should increase its membership tenfold. Every Lutheran in Chicago and many outside of the city can find here a blessed opportunity to follow in the footsteps of the Master who "went about doing good." The evidences which He offered to John that He was the Christ included His miracles of mercy. The proof of our faith and Christianity, *Christ-likeness*, is found in our love for and care of His own suffering and afflicted ones. Lutherans of Chicago should thank God that He has opened the Passavant Memorial Hospital as a channel for the expression of their faith and love.

Little Things

Dr. Johnson wisely said: "He who waits to do a great deal of good at once will never do anything." Life is made up of little things. It is but once in an age that occasion is offered for a great deed. True greatness consists in being great in little things. We should be willing to do a little good at a time, and never wait to do a great deal of good at once. If we would do much good in the world, we must be willing to do good in little things, little acts one after another, speaking a word here, giving help there, and setting a good example at all times; we must do the first good thing we can, and then the next, and so keep on doing.

The Christmas Chimes

The Christmas chimes are pealing high
Beneath the solemn Christmas sky,
And blowing winds their notes prolong
Like echoes from an angel's song;
"Good will and peace, peace and good will,"
Ring out the carols glad and gay,
Telling the heavenly message still,
That Christ the Child was born to-day.

In lowly hut and palace hall,
Peasant and king keep festival,
And childhood wears a fairer guise,
And tenderer shine all mothers' eyes;
The aged man forgets his years,
The mirthful heart is doubly gay,
The sad are cheated of their tears,
For Christ the Lord was born to-day.

"The Son of David"

BY REV. C. O. SOLBERG

The golden thread that courses through Old Testament writ had four knots. They were the Gordian knots of Jewish theology. Alas, that the learned Rabbis failed so utterly of disentangling them. Let us observe the four chief evidences of the Messiahship of Jesus. First, according to prophecy, he must be of the seed of Abraham. How this fact brings Christ in touch with every brave and faithful Christian! Though our days be many in toil and trouble, amid mountains of hope, and in valleys of disaster, our experience touches Jesus daily, for He was of the same seed. Again, He must be of the tribe of Judah. Who can forget the brilliant gifts of this tribe, originating with its founder, and gleaming forth from every portion of its history. As Luther Leaguers, we come also of a tribe of Judah, intrusted with the holy temple, with the sacred interests of the divine kingdom of truth. Again, Christ must be of the royal branch of David. How the Church needs to-day young men and women who are sons and daughters of David! The sword and bow and pen and harp of David thrill us with memories of high achievement. But the prayers and tears, the confession and penitence, the spiritual hunger and holy satisfaction of this earlier child of Bethlehem—how realistically they portray the struggles of the soul in its reachings after God. Lastly, the Messiah must be born of a pure virgin. And what a mother-heart was that of Mary! Sweet, pure, patient, content, aspiring, the relation between her and her Son will ever remain among the fairest themes for the human imagination. The Fourth Commandment becomes a shining jewel under the light of this parental instance. If our young folk could make the "Son of David" the one yearning hope and aspiration of their lives, what is mentioned here would no longer be aged truth, gray as the stony heights of Jerusalem, but it would be found an oasis in the desert of life, fresh and verdant as the brightest dawn spring ever knew. What an Advent their lives would then behold!

If we examine the career of the "Son of David" we find His conceptions notably counter to the ideas prevalent among us. The criterion of success, from a weekly prayer meeting to a public procession, is predominantly arithmetical. Christ cared nothing for numbers. His whole activity went out upon setting right the hearts of His hearers. He gave no great attention to reaching numbers, but unwearied attention to reaching the convictions of men. What a blessing it would be if even one among the church denominations in our country could reach this idea adequately in rank and file.

Passion for newness has become in our day almost akin to a vice. Whoever has thought conservatively upon men and things positively suffers to hear the flippant "something new, you know," which is so familiar to the ear. Of course, no one could dispute that Jesus brought an era of new things to men; that He is the great original in history. But we need to recall also the extreme care with which He regarded the usages and antecedents of His people. He came to fulfill all righteousness. He aserted that not one jot or tittle of the Law should pass away. We should not so violate the divinity of Jesus as to mingle it inconsiderately with His humanity, and so find excuse for bold innovation. A proper humility on our parts, as erring mortals, demands rather that we emphasize His regard for what was old and good.

Now there are important lessons for Luther Leaguers in this. I trust there will more and more come over our young people an energy and earnestness in the work of the Lord that will rejoice the Church. We misapprehend if we feel that the conservatism of the mother church is stagnation in any form or degree. Far from it! What we need is the spirit shown in the Son of David. May we learn from Him to love the truth with an all absorbing devotion. May our adherence to the "faith once delivered" be not merely formal and traditional, but personal and intelligent.

Among us as young people there is need

of a twofold energy. Nothing in this world can make men so resolute and aggressive as devotion to the truth. That art and literature is masterful which contains a large increment of truth. So that church is most significant, not merely whose theologians hold "sound doctrne" in a pure and evangelical way, but whose people have caught and hold the sweet and benign essentials of the book of mercy. This makes Luther's catechism next after the Bible the greatest fact in the spiritual history of the masses. How blessed it would be if our young people would awaken to a living interest in these plain old truths of redemption, such as would make them hunger for books and instruction, with the earnestness of humility and spiritual need. How blessed again, if they would awaken to a widespread, individual and prayerful zeal for progress of every good institution and work now struggling forward in our Church. No purer aspiration could come to the sons and daughters of the Reformation than the ambition to see Christian virtue and charity justified to the world, because of what has been accomplished. The social question, the labor problem, education, good citizenship, every difficulty, finds no nearer, simpler, more wholesome and complete solution than through humble but positive adherence to the truth of the Scriptures and Confessions, and energetic labor for the Kingdom along the line of these right principles. Christ wants not what is new nor what is winning, but what is right according to His Word. Not merely that we attract attention, but that we do real thinking, real praying, and real work, with real humility.

A Christmas Vision

BY ELLEN BURNS SHERMAN

Mr. Windram, a reporter on the *Cycle*, had just been given an assignment to "get up a Christmas story from life, if possible." Accordingly his mind, by the law of contrast, reviewed all the hackneyed scenes of literature in which the high lights of yuletide fall upon a corpulent Santa Claus, prancing reindeers, snow-covered chimneys, fire places and very dropsical-looking stockings.

Mr. Windram shook his head, cynically, then suddenly exclaimed: "I will take 50 snapshots of the faces of Christmas shoppers and use them as a decorative border around my Christmas tale, or, perhaps, better still, make them into one composite, illustrating one phase of the modern Christmas spirit. Then I will take as many more after Christmas of empty-pocketed givers and disgruntled receivers of gifts and let the photographs speak for themselves."

So it came to pass that Mr. Windram and his kodak might have been seen in the crowded shopping districts of New York a week before Christmas, where a frantic, panting, elbowing mob was temporarily suspending the Christmas graces in quest of Christmas presents.

The anxious faces, distorted by the selfish desire to be the first to be waited upon, or by unworthy exultation over a bargain that meant tragedy in its earlier history, all told their story to the trusty little kodak. After the snapshots had all been taken Mr. Windram rested his eyes and used his ears for snapshots of the conversation of shoppers and clerks.

"She'll never know the difference; it looks exactly like the real and only costs a fifth as much," was the first remark that was wafted down an elevator.

"I shan't spend more than 50 cents on her; you remember that ridiculous little vase that she gave me last Christmas. I had half a mind to give it to Bridget," was the second pronunciamento, delivered in high alarm-clock accents.

The third Christmas commentary came from a lady who was inspecting a book counter. "Oh, I must get that book for Alice; there's an empty-headed little flirt in it who's just the image of her!"

Mr. Windram sighed and whispered softly to himself: "Is there none good, no, not one?" As if in answer to his thought he heard, quite near him, the first sweet voice that had reached his ears since he had entered the yuletide babel.

"Yes, it is a bit more than I can afford, perhaps, but she is such a lonely old lady, whom most people forget, and I heard her sighing for one like this months ago."

But there is hardly ink enough in one bottle to chronicle all the revelations that Mr. Windram heard, or might have heard, had he tarried longer. In addition to all the comments of the shoppers there was a long list of sharp and snappy retorts made by pale-faced clerks, whose nerves had given out under the merciless strain of the days preceding Christmas. There were also, be it joyfully acknowledged, shining exceptions—men and women, boys and girls, behind the counters who proved their metal by meeting with serene faces and voices the bewildering demands and unmerited rebukes of petulant and exciting customers. With eye and ear too much informed for comfort, Mr. Windram left the shopping crowd, saying, God forgive us that we have so drifted from the true Christmas spirit of "Peace on earth, good will to men."—*Presbyterian Review.*

John Wilmot's Awakening

A Story

By Rev F. C. Longaker

THE Christmas services of St. Paul's Sunday school were always among the most popular in the city, so that by the time the service began the large auditorium was crowded from chancel rail to door with a happy, expectant throng. In the service itself there was nothing sensational, only a happy combination of lessons, recitations and songs which brought the deeper joys of the festival clearly to the minds of the people. Alice Hempton, whose rich contralto made her a general favorite as a soloist, was to sing. Instead of some meaningless, inappropriate anthem, she selected: "All Praise, Lord Jesus Christ, to Thee." When she arose to sing, she saw in that sea of upturned, radiant faces one that differed from all the others; it was the face of a man, but haggard and vindictive, the eyes gleamed with the luster of mingled passions, and the lips were curled with a cynical sneer. But forgetful of all around her, she sang for that wobegone stranger:

> The midnight brings th' eternal Light;
> A new born glory gilds the night;
> It shines the darkness far away,
> To make us children of the day.

His rigid features seemed to relax somewhat as his ears drank in the rich notes:

> The Father's Son, true God of God,
> Now takes this world for his abode,
> And in our human life appears,
> To lift us from this vale of tears.

Forward he leaned, as if fearful lest a single syllable should escape him:

> In mercy to our fallen race,
> In poverty He takes His place,
> That heavenly riches we may own,
> And dwell as angels round His throne.

The vast congregation was loth to leave the sacred place, for each had been touched as by a baptism of fire. From many sides came such comments as these: "She never sang like that before," "her soul was surely in her notes," "and Mr. Hixon spoke with more than his usual sympathy and tenderness." The stranger respectfully pushed his way toward the door, and, unknown to every one about him, held converse with the thoughts of his own heart. "Yes," he felt, "and I'm a better man, that singing helped me, and the minister made me see the Christ." At the door he tarried, he knew not why, except that he could not leave the place; and presently the minister, who also had marked him closely during the service, came up, and said pleasantly:

"You're a stranger here; are you not?"

"Yes, pastor; I'm a stranger everywhere, but here I've felt more at home than at any other place in seven years."

The minister wisely refrained from further questions at that time, but kindly invited him into the sacristy, where he, no doubt, would feel freer to unburden his heart. On entering the sacristy the minister noticed that the wild gleam in his eyes and the sneer on his lips, so noticeable at the beginning of the service, had given way almost entirely to a mute appeal for help and sympathy. Seated before the cheerful fire the stranger, as if continuing his answer at the door, said:

"No, I'm not what I once was; that's the saddest part of my life; I'm not what I once was."

"But this is Christmas," the minister replied, "and Christ whose coming we celebrated to-night is the Friend of all the suffering, sorrowing children of men; and in Him, let me assure you, you have more than a brother. But tell me, is there anything I can do for you?"

"In my despair I've said there's none to help the unfortunate, but to-night I've heard the voice of an angel; here I believe I'm to be saved."

To this the minister replied solemnly, but cordially:

"This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

"Yes," the stranger answered, "and will you listen to me?"

"Be entirely free to tell me all you have to say."

Then, handing him a letter, soiled and yellow with age, he said: "Read it."

Eager to help this unfortunate man, Mr. Hixon read:

February 18, 1889.

"My dear Nephew:

"I would that I might be spared the unpleasantness and pain of writing you this, but the sooner you know all the less worry and embarrassment you will have in the future. Your guardian who held your father's estate in trust for you has lost all by wild speculations. He came to me last night and confessed everything, and, before I had recovered from the shock, he was gone, and with him your money.

"We all feel so sorry for you, poor Jack; but as you are now a junior, you will be able to find something to do for a year or two, and then return to college to complete your course. But at present you must not remain, because you are absolutely without means of support.

"Be brave, boy. The loss of your money will prove a serious blow, but with health and ambition you can support yourself and lay by enough soon to return to college. You will thus learn early the lessons of self-dependence, so that your present loss may prove a future gain. Do not become discouraged.

"Hoping to hear good things from you,

"I am, as ever,

"YOUR AUNT JULIA."

For a moment the minister held the letter in his hand, then asked:

"And what did you do?"

"Just what she advised me. I went to the president and told him my story. He pitied me, but could not help me. I looked for a position as bookkeeper or something, but in the score of places where I applied there was only one vacancy, and that was closed to me because I was unable to combine stenography with bookkeeping. They told me that they were sorry, but could do nothing for me. Next I sought a place as clerk in a store, only to learn at each place that "experienced" help was wanted. Then I left the town, hoping to meet with better success elsewhere. The little money which I had when I left college was fast giving out, even by the strictest economy. I was on the verge of desperation, when finally I found a job in Pittsburg. For two months I worked hard, rolling barrels and lifting heavy boxes of groceries for $6 a week. At the end of that time I was discharged, because the man, whose place I had, returned to his work from illness.

But why make the story so long? For seven years I've lived this sort of life. My confidence in men was early shaken; the social conditions seemed to me sadly out of order; and under repeated set backs I became indifferent to nobler instincts and callous to all religious influence. To-night I was on my way to the home of my boyhood to end my miserable existence in the icy waters of the river. In passing your church I saw the crowds entering, and as I saw each face sparkling with radiant happiness I felt sure that in one of those hundreds I'd find a friend. Nor have I been disappointed. Whatever may now become of me, I've been too near heaven to carry out my grim purpose. The singing of that angel and your words—oh, it's been a long time since I've heard anything like it!"

Tears, hot tears straight from the heart, coursed down his cheeks, and the minister laid his hand on his arm, saying:

"You must come home with me."

"Ah, no!" he faltered; "I'm not worthy to go under your roof."

"Come," the minister repeated, with resistless sincerity and cordiality.

At the parsonage Mrs. Hixon and Miss Hempton were waiting for the return of the minister, and the latter was not a little surprised to see him enter with the stranger whom she had seen at church.

"Maggie," as the two men halted at the door to the sitting-room, "this is Mr. Wilmot; my wife and niece, Miss Hempton, Mr. Wilmot."

"Wilmot! Hempton!" the younger people involuntarily exclaimed at the same time.

"Do you know each other?" Mr. Hixon asked of them.

"No," Alice replied; "it is only a coincidence; poor Walter had a friend by that name."

"And poor Jack had a friend by your name," Mr. Wilmot added.

"Oh, ho!" the minister smiled; "what won't unfold itself here?"

"Only this," Alice replied; "Walter had a classmate whose name was John Wilmot, who left college in his junior year, and since then has not been heard from by his friends."

"And are you related to Walter Hempton?" Mr. Wilmot eagerly asked.

"Yes, he was my brother," a little sadly.

"You say, 'he was my brother?'"

"He died a year after graduation, poor Walter."

"He was a fine young man," the visitor continued, "and I've often thought of him. Oh, if it had only been I who had died, the world would have been better by one at least!"

"And if he could have lived," Mr. Hixon interrupted; "you and he would have made the world better by two at least."

"I hope now to be of some use; that song, pardon me, Miss Hempton, helped me so much."

With a smile she acknowledged the compliment, and with Mrs. Hixon quietly withdrew. Until long after midnight the minister sat up, talking over plans for the future with a man who a few hours before believed himself without a future.

Early the next morning everything was in a bustle at the parsonage, and Mr. Wilmot was in the library long before breakfast. He was deeply absorbed in a book which he had taken from a shelf, and was unaware of any one's approach until he heard a cheery, musical "Merry Christmas."

"Ah! thank you; may it be to you, Miss Hempton," at the same time laying down the book.

"I trust I've not interrupted you," she said, pleasantly.

"No," he replied, quickly; "I hope soon to

have time again for books and study. Now I can give my time to the young lady whose song was my deliverance."

"I fear you overestimate its value," she replied, candidly.

"Not at all," he continued; "there was power and spirit in both words and music.

In mercy to our fallen race——

How do the other lines run?"

In poverty He takes His place,
That heavenly riches we may own,
And dwell as angels round His throne.

"Yes, yes; those are the ones," he exclaimed; "how full of wisdom for such as me!"

"For us all, Mr. Wilmot."

"Oh, yes; 'for us all,' but especially for me! As you sang those lines in inimitable manner, standing under festoons flaked with silver and trimmed with gold, I saw that heaven, after all, is not so far from earth, and I longed as I had not for years to inherit the true riches."

"I saw you, and knew that you were troubled," Alice replied.

"And you sang for me? Thank you!"

Mrs. Hixon's cheery voice summoned the family to breakfast, where each received the more substantial compliments of the season. Beside Mr. Wilmot's plate lay a small package with a card bearing the simple inscription: "With the best wishes of friends." The gift was a small morocco bound Church Book, and at the time no other present could have been more acceptable. That morning he carried it with him to church, and sang from it that service which was destined to become so precious to him. In the afternoon the two men called on several of the wealthier members of the congregation to complete arrangements for the younger's return to college. On their way to church in the evening the two young people walked together, chatting pleasantly of the morrow, when he was to return to college after his long absence and varied experiences.

"Do you know," he said; "these four years of preparation still necessary seem almost interminable."

"Yes, but you will be so absorbed in study and college life that the time will quickly pass."

"Even with that it will still seem long; I need more."

By her quick feminine instinct she saw whither his conversation was tending, and, with a deftness known only to her sex, she changed the subject.

Before leaving the parsonage Mr. Wilmot had another long talk with the minister, in the course of which he said:

"This has been, indeed, a blessed Christmas. What revelations I've had! I used to think that the day was only for the children, but I've learned that it has a new and far deeper meaning. The Christ-Child has come to me, and I've waked to a new life."

Five years have passed. Jack Wilmot again spends part of Christmas at the parsonage, and he and Alice walk to church together. They talk of his church and work at Vincent; she with animation and he with hope.

"Yes," he said; "I'm installed, but not settled; I still need more."

With becoming modesty, she remained silent.

"Miss Hempton—Alice," he continued, at the same time taking her hand; "of my life one part still remains unconfessed."

She made no effort to disengage her hand from his, and her hazel eyes sparkled joyfully as they looked confidingly into those of the man at her side.

Christmas

For 1900 years Christmas has been speaking to the world. Only once did the heavenly host appear in multitude overhead, saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men;" but the utterance has been caught up and repeated, in both speech and song, in all the years since that night by an ever increasing number of voices—thousands—millions—tens of millions.

The Christmas truth has gone everywhere. "There is no speech nor language where its voice is not heard. Its line has gone out through all the earth, and its words to the end of the world."

But not in word and song only has the Christmas spirit spoken. In all the civilized nations, great and small, Christmas has created itself into an institution—permanent, beautiful, instructive. It speaks by time and custom, by sign and richly suggestive emblem—by blazing yule log, by laden tree, and inexhaustible gifts of that mysterious saint, who is as omnipresent in the world of Christian children as the good Lord of heaven Himself. How much real peace and happiness the truth of the Christmas story has produced in the world it would be impossible to say.—*Selected.*

"Every youth who is taught to observe the principles of justice and forbearance becomes an intelligent friend of the doctrine of peace; and every endeavor which aims at such instruction is deserving of the highest commendation."—PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

Luther League of New Jersey

Sixth Convention, Atlantic City, November 5

AT 2:30 o'clock p. m. on election day, Tuesday, November 5th, the Sixth annual convention of the Lutheran League of New Jersey was opened in St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Atlantic City, the Revs. Dr. J. A. and M. R. Kunkelman, pastors. The president, the Rev. Frederick C. Krapf of Elizabeth, presided.

The greeting of the Atlantic City congregation and league was extended to the delegates and visitors by Mr. John W. Mitchell, president of the latter body. The response was made by President Krapf.

The roll of delegates was called and was responded to by representatives from Atlantic City, Asbury Park, Camden, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Newark and Saddle River.

Reports were made by the president and by the treasurer, Miss Carrie Van Gilluwe. These reports, as well as those made by the Executive, Credential and Extension Committees, manifested progress and also encouraging prospects.

Upon recommendation of the Credential Committee the Leagues of St. John's Church, Bloomfield, the Rev. J. G. Schulz, pastor, and of the Church of the Redeemer, Jersey City, the Rev. J. E. Heindel, pastor, were received into membership.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Pres., T. Clem Beck, Elizabeth; first vice-pres., James Craig, Saddle River; second vice-pres., William Hambrecht, Camden; third vice-pres., Miss Anna Van Gilluwe, Ocean Grove; rec. sec., Miss Lena Block, Newark; cor. sec., Miss Augusta Neubeck, Elizabeth; treas., Miss Prudence Kerr, Atlantic City.

The Leagues of the Church of the Atonement, Asbury Park, and of Holy Trinity Church, Elizabeth, invited the League to meet with them for the next convention. By the decision of the Executive Committee the invitation of the League of the Church of Atonement, Asbury Park, the Rev. George Genzmers, pastor, was accepted, and the date set as election day, 1902.

Several amendments to the constitution were presented. The one is to give the privilege of the floor and the power of voting to all past presidents of the Luther League of New Jersey, even though not chosen as delegates by a local society. The other calls for a per capita assessment of five cents upon each local society to secure funds to defray expenses of visitation and extension work.

A strong desire was manifested that the State League be well represented at the next convention of the Luther League of America, and President Beck was given power to appoint delegates and alternates.

The topic for the afternoon—"Local League Labors"—was well handled. Miss Prudence Kerr of Atlantic City read a paper on "Enlisting." She was followed by Mr. James Craig of Saddle River, who gave an animated and practical address on "Training." In turn, Miss Otilia Kiesele of Newark read her paper on "Serving," in which there was expressed not only a clear grasp of the needs in present day church life, but also a sincere call to active service. An interesting discussion followed the reading of the papers.

The question box was again in charge of Mr. Louis Van Gilluwe, and interest in this feature of the day's programme ceased only because the hour of adjournment was close at hand.

A vote of thanks was given to the congregation and League for the kind entertainment accorded the delegates, after which the session closed with the hymn, "Abide with us," prayer and the benediction.

The delegates again assembled at 8 o'clock, when many others united with them in a devout use of the vesper service. The liturgical service was in charge of the Revs. M. R. Kunkelman and E. E. Neudewitz. Appropriate musical selections were rendered by members of the local congregation. The subject of the evening session was "Missions." Addresses were delivered on "Foreign Missions, Home Missions" and "Inner Missions" by the Rev. Drs. W. A. Schaeffer, C. S. Albert and J. F. Ohl, respectively, all of Philadelphia. These addresses were practical and elicited much interest on the part of all. Especially can this be said of the last address as reference was therein made to conditions that exist in many of the fields represented by workers at the convention. President Stoever of the Luther League of America was present, and addressed both sessions of the convention.

President Beck announced as his committees, the following: Executive Committee—the Revs. E. E. Neudewitz of Jersey City, and M. L. Snyder of Saddle River; Louis Van Gilluwe, Ocean Grove; John W. Mitchell, Atlantic City, and Emil Fischer, Elizabeth. Credential Committee—Jacob Martin, Elizabeth, chairman; Albert Hammond, Camden; Wm. Bishof, Jersey City; Mr. Raab, Bloomfield, and Miss Daisy Albert, Trenton. Extension Committee—James Craig, Saddle River, chairman; Wm. Hambrecht, Camden; Miss Prudence Kerr, Atlantic City; Miss Otilia Kiesele, Newark, and Miss Carrie Van Gilluwe, Ocean Grove.

Luther League of Kansas

Annual Convention, at Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 29-31

ONLY two things cause regret over the convention of this League held in Kansas City, Mo., October 29 to 31—namely, that the parting time came too soon, and that all our young Lutherans—and older

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Where Sessions of the Convention Were Held

ones, too—could not be present to hear the inspiring addresses, papers, discussions and music. But a convention cannot have everything, not even everything that is good.

Your space will not permit notice of all the excellent things that were done and said. The first meeting was held on the evening of October 29, in the large Swedish Lutheran Church, and there were words of greeting by Dr. Dysinger, a response by the president, Prof. E. F. W. Pihlblad, both pithy, and a most helpful Scriptural Convention sermon on True Witness Bearing by Rev. Dr. F. D. Altman. The speaker told when, where and how Lutherans should bear testimony to Christ. Besides, there was sweet music by the several Lutheran choirs.

The day sessions of Wednesday were held in the Swedish Lutheran Church, and the following practical subjects were discussed: "How to Impove the Devotional Meeting," "Young People and the Church," "Young People and the Bible," "Proving Our Faith by Our Works," "Opportunities of Lutheran Young People" and "The Future of Lutheranism in the West." Don't you think, Messrs, Editors, that such a list would give a convention enough food for thought for one day?

The last two themes brought out a vigorous discussion.

On Wednesday evening a fine audience assembled at the Children's Memorial Church to take part in the worship and listen to the addresses and special music. One of the most original addresses of the convention was delivered at this meeting by Dr. H. L. Yarger, whose subject was, "Elements of Strength in the Lutheran Church." The sparkling wit of the address added much to its interest for a popular assembly, but under it all was a foundation of solid truth, while through it there breathed a spiritual force that should pervade the whole Church of the Reformation. Another address was delivered on Gustavus Adolphus, by Dr. J. E. Floren of Bethany College, Lindsborg College. It was delivered with so much dignified eloquence that the sympathetic hearer felt himself thrilled by the account of the

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Where Sessions of the Convention Were Held

heroic life and deeds of a great Lutheran king, the "Saviour of Protestantism." The choirs of the Swedish and Memorial Lutheran churches rendered excellent music.

What shall be said of the sessions on Thursday and Thursday evening, all of them held in the First Lutheran Church? A paper read by Miss Josephine Maedel of Kansas City, Mo., proved so acceptable that the convention decided to offer it to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW and secure its publication in leaflet form for distribution among our young people. The subject was, "How Can Our Young People be of Greater Service to the Church?" A capital paper was that of Mr. C. N. Swihart of our Western Theological Seminary, on "Luther League Literature." With a clear enunciation, a forcible delivery and suggestive thoughts, it was the kind of an address that stirs a convention to the point when everybody wants to speak. We venture to say that the Luther League of Kansas will know more about our own literature the coming year than it has in all its past. "Teaching Doctrine to the Young" was well discussed by Dr. Dysinger and Rev. D. Earhart, while the "Advantages of Using the Luther League Topics," opened by Mr. F. W. Christenson, elicited a spirited discussion in which there seemed to be but one opinion. It would be difficult to produce a more patriotic paper than the one written by Rev. A. M. L. Herenius of Topeka, on "The Young Lutheran as an American Citizen." Its publication was also requested.

No doubt the convention was brought to a climax by the meeting on Thursday evening. President C. A. Swensson was not able to be present, to the disappointment of all, but the theme assigned him was jointly discussed by Rev. J. A. Clutz, D.D., and the Rev. L. S. Keyser, D.D. It was, "Our Heritage From the Reformation and How to Use It." At this session the full Common Service was beautifully rendered, being conducted by Rev. J. W. Ball, with the excellent help of the combined choirs of the three Lutheran churches. How the noble old chants rang out! Beautiful solos were sung and the Swedish Glee Club and choir won many laurels by their stirring music.

Perhaps some one will ask how the English and Swedish Lutherans can work together so intelligibly and harmoniously. The answer is, the Swedes have become surprisingly proficient in the use of the English language. Who can measure the influence of such conventions for the onward moving cause of Lutheran fraternity? Yes, the good work goes marching on like John Brown's body.

The new officers of the State League are: Pres., Rev. L. S. Keyser, D.D.; vice-pres., Rev. Holmes Dysinger, D.D.; sec., Miss Lydia Esping; treas., Miss Lizzie Snell; Executive Committee, Revs. A. M. L. Hernius, G. A. Elsman and W. F. Troxall, D.D.

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Luther League Topics

New Year. January 5, 1902.

Martin Luther, the Youth

(I Samuel 3 : 1-10)

Historical Topic reviewed by Rev. A. Ramsey

As it was with the Saviour whom he afterward learned to love and trust and serve, so was it with Luther,—he was born in poverty. His parents were humble and devout, who, though unable to endow their son with earthly riches, did not delay in making him an heir of heavenly riches, for before he was 24 hours in this world they brought him to the baptismal water of the new birth.

Again, like his Lord, the little Martin "increased in wisdom" under the instruction of his God-fearing parents, who, as soon as he was old enough, began that training in the knowledge of God's Word which was to bear such blessed fruit in later years. The scope of that instruction was necessarily limited, for even the rich and the learned did not possess much of that Word. But, at least, he was taught the Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer, with probably a principal doctrine or two of the Church and surely some forms of prayer. It is interesting to conjecture as to what influence this youthful instruction in spiritual truth exerted upon the Reformer in preparing that mighty little book, "The Small Catechism," for the Christian instruction of the children in primary Scripture truth. While the need of such a book became apparent to him through the awful ignorance which he observed, the memories of his own youthful experience would, without doubt, have some weight in determining the form and arrangement of its contents. Then, too, when we read of the boy that, as the result of his religious training, "the only religious feeling that he manifested was that of fear," we can understand somewhat better the heart of the man whose Catechsim is so full of God's love and goodness. God was making even that hard youth time a means of preparing Luther for future service.

In another particular was his boyhood like that of the boy Jesus. His father's place of toil was the scene of the lad's play, which doubtless was patterned after the father's work. It is not a hard matter to picture young Martin sturdily struggling in his father's modest iron works at Mansfeld, with a hammer much to large for his little hands, and to look forward from that day and that effort to the great day at Wittenberg, when with iron heart and strong, gripping fist he swung that hammer before whose blows the very gates of hell were set a tremble. His boyhood playing with hard iron was preliminary to manhood's labors upon the hard hearts of sinful men, the burning and beating out of human impurities and the welding together of different parts and pieces into one mighty instrument for truth and righteousness. Watch the lad, for in him is the man of mighty deeds.

Then, too, the later years of his youthtime are full of fitting for the coming labors. The hard days of his schooling at Magdeburg and Eisenach added to the strength this youth was acquiring against the day of his testing. The stories, all too true, that tell of his singing on the streets as a means of getting bread are familiar to any one who knows anything about his life. Out of those harsh experiences flowered his unfailing tenderness toward the poor in later years. He was at Magdeburg when Proles, the Augustinian, there preached the need of reform in the Church, and there may have been dropped, all unnoticed, a small seed that was to produce its blade 20 years later. It was at this time that good woman Madame Cotta became his benefactress, giving him a home in her house, so that he was freed from the necessity of begging his daily bread and enabled to do his work as a student in comfort and with steadily increasing delight. The hand of Providence is again seen leading Luther.

Then came Urfurt and the university days; the library with its opportunities, eagerly employed by the young student for study; the discovery of that chained Bible; the sudden death of his friend and companion, Alexius, and then that terrorizing storm which aroused his soul to an agony of fear in the face of what seemed impending death, which, in the providence of God, marked the turning point in his life from which his subsequent course was a steady one toward his final entrance upon his great work.

It is imposible to point to any one event or to any particular period in Luther's pre-Reformation life as the beginning of his preparation for the Reformation work. From his birth all things were working together to equip him for that work. As in gazing upon a mighty mountain range the eye will make towering peaks that rise above their fellows and compel a lingering glance, so in those early days there were events and experiences that are rightly regarded as crises in his life. Such was the discovery of the Bible in the library at Erfurt, and such was his resolve to enter a monastery. But as those cloud-piercing peaks reach down and find their foundations mingling

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlines and reviews), in 32 page pamphlet, covering three months, can be supplied at rates given on page 26 by Luther League Review, Box 875, New York, N. Y.

with those of all the range, and are important mainly because they rise above the common crest, so after all do those prominent events in the youth of Luther merge themselves in the ordinary course of his every day life and hold our attention because of their evident relation to his manhood's mighty work. But, after all, it was the boy, Martin, who grew to be the man, Luther; and all his earlier years, under God's guidance, fitting him for doing that work. The rugged physical strength that enabled him to accomplish such tremendous labors as a man had its early development in those earlier years, when, as a child, he carried at his mother's side the bundled faggots for the family fire, and, as a boy, his face blackened with the furnace grime, he wrought at his father's forge. That inflexible will with which he withstood Emperor and Pope was rarely shown, else how fully account for the 15 whippings he himself says he received in one morning at school? That magnificent loyalty to conviction which held him firmly to the authority of the Word in spite of sweet promises or awful threats is seen in his determined surrender of an assured success in a secular profession as soon as he came to think, "I ought to become a monk." His eagerness in the search after the truth is foreshadowed in his ardent pursuit of the wisdom of the old writers when he was a student in the university. Yes, the man may be seen in the youth, enfolded there as the tree is wrapped in the acorn. That the man came forth from the youth was because the youth responded to the Divine impulses, the guidings of God, just as the oak grows out of the acorn in response to the persuasions of earth and dew and warming sun.

1st Week after Epiphany. Jan. 12, 1902.

Our Country; or, The Gospel for America.

(John 4 : 35-38)

Missionary Topic reviewed by Rev. Clarence E. Gardner

The Gospel is what we need. It makes men free. It develops good citizens. It will make of this the greatest nation of the earth and for all time to come. Following so closely the tragedy of a few months since when a beloved President was laid low by an assassin's bullet, we are persuaded that a serious consideration of this subject is timely. Evidently there are forces at work in our nation which do not make for her peace and prosperity. The Gospel, with all its leavening power, needs to be proclaimed from every village and hamlet, until the whole nation is won for Christ. Christ and Him crucified is our theme. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

We speak of this as a Christian nation, and so it is viewing it from one standpoint, but looking at it from another what blackness of darkness looms into view! On all hands we see vice, crime, lawlessness, intemperance, immorality and an utter disregard for God's Word, His day, and the sanctuary. We can expect little less of our children growing up under these influences than that they become anarchists and rank disbelievers. This tide of disregard for civil and moral law must be checked. God must be exalted and honored.

One has said, "As goes America so goes the world." And we might add as moves the Lutheran Church so goes America. What a charge has been placed upon our shoulders! "Beginning at Jerusalem," was the divine command. And Paul says: "But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." With the large Lutheran population already in this country, and the constant stream of emigrants flowing to America, our responsibility is increased. The Church of the Reformation, which has always been set for the preaching of the Gospel, has much to do in shaping our destiny. She preaches the Word to all peoples in their own tongue. While many of her sister denominations are doctrinally unsettled, she is at peace and fully satisfied with her Augustana. In this day of commercialism and general unbelief she bends not to the whims and desires of men for a secularized gospel, but preaches the Word of Truth, believing it to be the divinely inspired Word of God. This is the preaching we need for an age of doubt. This is what America needs. A Church like this with an avowed following of over 7,000,000 of souls in our country, and one that stands for the preaching of God's Word in its purity must occupy a prominent place in any nation.

But have we provided for our own? When we are told that every fourth person west of Chicago is a Lutheran, either by birth or adoption, and when we consider the little or nothing that we have done for them, and when we hear their appeals for churches and preaching in their own tongue and faith, we are constrained to say that we have denied the faith. Said a Presbyerian minister of K——, Idaho, to me the past summer: "It is a shame the way you neglect your people in the North and West. Almost half the people in the town where I preach are Lutherans, and yet not one Lutheran Church near." What is true of this one place is true of the great Northwest. If we had the means and the men over one thousand missionaries could be placed in this part of our

country alone, and then not supply the demand. And what of the great cities of New York and Chicago? Here we are told there are hundreds and thousands of our own people uncared for. And what of the many other towns and cities that are appealing to our Boards for help? Can we turn a deaf ear to their pleadings? The one mistake that our fathers made in planting churches was that they did not 50 years ago enter these larger cities. To-day, instead of having no church or a struggling mission in these cities, we might have strong churches. We must enter the cities for thither are our people drifting, and unless we are there to care for them many are not only lost to the Lutheran Church, but lost forever. We have not only been unable to reach a part of the great unsaved mass, but we have miserably failed in caring for them of our own household of faith.

Facts such as these should fire every loyal Lutheran's heart to greater zeal. A just pride in our beloved Zion's welfare should create in every son and daughter's breast a desire to do something. Something must be done. The conditions that confront us are such as face no other denomination. Appeal after appeal comes for help. Thousands are looking to us for the preaching of God's Word. Shall they look in vain? What can we do? We can pray; then we can help answer our prayers by giving; then with the great prophet of old we can say: "Here am I, Lord, send me."

2d Week after Epiphany. Jan. 19, 1902.

The General Synod's Mission in India

(Romans 10 : 11-15)

Missionary Topic reviewed by Rev. J. H. Harpster, D.D.

The field of the mission constitutes a part of the Kistna district of the Madras Presidency. It lies along the south bank of the Krishna River, from its entrance into the Bay of Bengal, 100 miles west to the mountains of Kurnool. The area of the mission's field is 4,958 square miles, and includes seven taluqs, or counties. The country is level, interspersed here and there with mountain ranges which rise straight from the plain. The soil is, for the most part, very fertile, and has a population of 220 to the square mile. The density of the population will be better comprehended when it is stated that Pennsylvania, with its great cities, has only 120 to the square mile, and Ohio only 90. The total population of these seven counties was 1,091,164, according to the census of 1890.

All over this large territory are scattered mission prayer houses, school houses and larger or smaller congregations. In several of the counties there are congregations, some small, to be sure, but some numbering 200, 300, and more, in two out of every three villages within its borders.

The principal town in the South Kistna district is Guntur. It is the headquarters of the mission. Here the mission has a hospital, one of the largest and best equipped, perhaps, in the Presidency, outside of Madras; a college, high school, theological school, church, boy's boarding school, girl's boarding school, orphanage, printing office, book store, six bungalows and eight other school buildings.

At Narasarowpet, 28 miles from Guntur, the mission has another station. Here there are two bungalows and a handsome church building. At Rentachintala, 75 miles west of Guntur, is another mission station, with a commodious bungalow, outbuildings and a church building in process of erection. The coming year will see two new mission stations going up—at Sattenapalle, 21 miles west of Guntur, and at Chirala, 50 miles southeast. There should be two more stations; one at Tenali, the county seat of a district with 225,000 of a population, and another at Vinukonda, the county seat of that taluq. This will give us a mission station at the seat of each county in which we are working. Not to put a sation, at the very least, at the center of each county embraced in our mission field would be a reflection on the missionary enterprise of our Church. It ought to be done; and, if it ought, it will be.

The South Mahratta Railway runs diagonally right through our mission field from one end to the other; and the East Coast Railway from north to south through its eastern border. These railways facilitate greatly the working of the field.

The following are a few mission statistics —taking the three last decades: In 1870 there was only one missionary in the field; in 1900, there were 17. In 1870 there were 24 congregations in the mission; in 1900, 432. In 1870 there were 34 villages in which there were Christians; in 1900, 607. In 1870 there were 443 pupils in the schools of the mission; in 1900, 6,059. In 1870 there were 30 native mission workers in the mission; in 1900, 448. In 1870 there were 649 baptisms during the year; in 1900, 1,962. In 1870 there were 1,345 baptized members; in 1900, 20,486. In 1870 the total amount for the support of the mission raised in India was $440; in 1900, it was $10,200. For the last 26 years the average number of baptisms has been 1,000 a year.

It will thus be seen that the growth of the mission during the three last decades, in every department of work and Christian life and development, has been great.

And not only so, but those who are most

closely related to the mission, both by service and knowledge of the field, feel certain that the mission stands upon the threshold of still greater triumphs of the Gospel. The baptisms in 1901 will, in all probability, reach 3,000, if not more. There are to-day in the mission about 20,000 inquirers, or catechumens, under instruction for baptism. Indeed it seems that the whole class or caste of people to whom God has so wonderfully opened a door of access, numbering full 100,000 in the district, might be won to Christianity in the next ten years. If the missionaries and native workers can keep up the unremitting onset which has characterized the last ten years, and supported in their work as they ought to be by the prayers and the prayerful giving of the Church in America, there is no reason why even a phenomenal achievement such as this should not be brought about.

A very encouraging feature in connection with our mission is that the large number of native preachers and teachers, full 450, are nearly all supported by Luther Leagues, Christian Endeavor societies, Sunday schools, Sunday school classes, or individuals in the home church. This is a very admirable feature of our General Synod church life. It brings these societies and individuals into direct touch with the foreign mission work, and cannot help but act and react upon the general religious tone of the Church in the home land. There is no more effective way of fostering spiritual life and mission interest than this. From the viewpoint of its own spiritual growth, and consequent usefulness as a member of the body of Christ, which is the Church, no congregation, society or Sunday school should fail to keep a native evangelist constantly in the field as its substitute in the propagation of the Gospel, and cheerfully supported by its contributions. And this is just as true of individual church members to whom God has given the means to do it. And they can do it for $30 a year.

Septuagesima. Jan. 26. 1902.

Power and Effect of the Word

(Jas. 1 : 18-21)

Biblical Topic reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller

Brief papers may be presented on such themes as: 1. "The Spirit and the Word." 2. "The Best Gift." 3. "The Work of the Word in the Individual Heart." 4. "The Power of God Unto Salvation."

Lesons for Our Own Lives: 1. *The Word is a living power.* We fail if we do not recognize and acknowledge it as such. A grain of sand and a grain of wheat may look very much alike, but the difference is that in the latter there is a life germ, a vital power. Such is the difference between all the words of men and the Word of God. Words of men, indeed, have power to stimulate the intellect, and to awaken to morality, but the Word of God alone, of all instrumentalities in the world, has the regenerating efficacy of spiritual life, it alone is the power of God unto salvation.

2. *The power lies in the "engrafted Word."* Or, as the Revised Version better translates, the "implanted" Word. It is not a thing acquired by our study, learned by our investigation and insight, that proves able to save, but a thing given to us, "implanted," with as little done on our part to obtain it as is done on the part of the soil, when the seed is strewed over it. Yet it is true that the seed which falls on the beaten paths is snatched up, and bears no fruit. The Word must not only touch the surface, but it must be received. To be implanted is to enter into the new environment, and become rooted in it. Does the Word take root in your heart? Is it only cast upon the soul to meet no acceptance, to be snatched away from the indifferent heart, or does it enter in, to develop its characteristic power and to produce its proper fruit? On the answer to that question depends the realization which you have of the divine truth of our lesson. To him who receives the Word, in whom it is implanted and rooted, there is no need of proof that its source and power is divine. But to the dull, careless, unbelieving hearer there is no conviction that the Word is of God. How do you hear? With the reverent attention due to the assurance that it is God who speaks? With the confident expectation of help and cheer and invigoration and power from the Holy Spirit through the Word? Give us such hearers, with faith and love in their hearts, and sermons would not fall dead, and a new demonstration of the power of the Word would convince the world!

— Mr. Charles M. Stieff, the well-known manufacturer of pianos and agent for Standard organs, whose fine warerooms, 9 North Liberty street, and factory at Baltimore, Md., are so often visited by the Lutherans of that locality in search of high grade musical instruments, reports that his fall trade has been exceptionally good. Mr. Stieff operates besides his Baltimore establishment seven branch stores, located at Washington, D. C.; Norfolk, Va.; Lynchburg, Va.; Charlotte, N. C.; Harrisburg, Pa.; Pittsburgh, Pa., and Boston, Mass. Readers of the REVIEW will be welcomed at any of them and find the salesmen glad to show them the famous Stieff pianos. Mr. Stieff points with pride to the list of prize medals he has won at the Centennial at Philadelphia, 1876; in Paris, 1878; at Atlanta, 1881; at New Orleans, 1884. and at Chicago in 1893. He now has an extensive exhibit at the Charleston Exposition, where also two of his pianos are in the Maryland Building.

Luther League of Maine

First Convention, at Portland, Sept. 29-Oct. 1

THE first convention of Lutheran young people's societies in Maine was held in the First Lutheran Church, Portland, Maine, September 29 to October 1.

Rev. M. H. Hegge, Brooklyn, N. Y., preached Sunday morning in his characteristic appealing and persuasive manner on the subject, "Who is the Greatest in the Kingdom of God?"

The convention sermon by Rev. J. Theo. Bursett, Berlin Mills, N. H., Sunday evening—subject, "Rich Toward God"—contained much helpful advice to the young.

The resident pastor, Rev. William Williams, welcomed the delegates and ministers to Portland—"the beautiful city by the sea"—to his church, to their homes, and to partake in the great movement of organizing the young people for the good of the Church.

This was followed by a hearty response by Rev. M. H. Hegge.

Monday was spent by most of the delegates in viewing some of the beautiful sights of Portland. After devotional exercises Monday evening, committees were appointed and business transacted.

The subject for general discussion was, "History, Growth, Size and Mission of the Lutheran Church." Rev. Hegge gave the principal address of the evening.

His statistics showing that the Lutheran Church is the fourth in size of Protestant denominations in the United States, and that it is the largest Protestant denomination in the world, was a surprise to most people present, and also to the city, for the morning papers contained comments and extracts of this most instructive address.

The session closed by an enthusiastic speech on the "Mission of the Lutheran Church," by Rev. P. P. Thoreby, Falmouth, Maine.

In the Tuesday afternoon session, Mr. S. T. Sorensen, Portland, spoke on "Our Luther League." Mrs. Thorn, Berlin Mills, had a paper, "The Young Lutheran and His Attitude Toward His Church." This was briefly discussed.

Then followed election of officers. The following were elected for the year: Rev. William Williams, pres.; Rev. J. T. Bursett, first vice-pres.; Rev. P. P. Thoreby, second vice-pres.; Mr. J. T. Sorensen, sec.; Mrs. Oleson, treas.

Supper and reception was given by the local League to the ministers and delegates in the church vestry.

Tuesday evening was the last session. Addresses were made by Revs. J. Theo. Bursett and William Williams. Then followed closing words by other clergymen present and by the pastor of the church.

It was generally conceded that the convention was a very successful one. What added much to its interest was the solos by Rev. J. Theo. Bursett, Miss Lottie Anderson, Mr. J. T. Sorensen, and the songs of the Westbrook and Portland choirs and the Luther League Male Quartette.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, PORTLAND
Where the Convention Was Held

During the convention a telegram was received from William C. Stoever, president of the Luther League of America.

Happiness

"Usefulness is to be sought, aimed at and worked for; happiness is to come of itself in the pursuit of usefulness. The mistake most men make is in studying to be happy. They should let that take care for itself. It is not a state of mind to be cultivated; but to be enjoyed in the midst of duty alone. To a rational, virtuous mind, wealth does not bring enjoyment if it is employed merely in the gratification of the senses. Misery may be the result of such living. But in the judicious use of wealth for the good of others the true man finds that comfort the favored few alone can afford to buy."—*Ex.*

Hurry and Worry

The world is wide
In time and tide,
And God is guide;
Then, do not hurry.

That man is blest
Who does his best
And leaves the rest;
Then, do not worry.

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE
ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE
LUTHER LEAGUE OF AMERICA
IN THE INTERESTS OF
The Lutheran Church and her Young People.
Edited by E. F. Eilert,
WITH
W. C. STOEVER, PHILADELPHIA, PA. S. G. WEISKOTTEN, BROOKLYN, N. Y.
LUTHER M. KUHNS, OMAHA, NEB.
AS SPECIAL ASSOCIATES,
And the co-operation of the Executive Committee of the Luther League of America.

Subscription, 50 Cents a Year.
Club Terms on Application.

Remittances may be made in stamps, Post Office or Express Money Order, Draft, or Registered Letter. Address all communications and send all remittances to

LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW,
P. O. Box 876, New York.

Entered at the N. Y. Post Office as Second-class Matter.
Publication Office, 131 Liberty St., New York.

Editorial

December

Crisp and clear, with the thermometer retreating, comes onward the month of the Advent season; scattering its snowy hair upon "a nipping and an eager air." The world's garment is incrusted with ice-gems, and its diadem is strung with pearls as of the glittering frost. Crystals sparkle everywhere in the morning light, and the ears are all atingle with the merry, merry jingle alike of bells that sound along the way that winds over quiet hill and through busy mart.

In its crowning glory the month opens to man the gates of Christmastide, and, lo! fair and beautiful as ever, both holy and lowly! lies, in Bethlehem's keeping, the "Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Israel His people." All hail and thrice welcome to Him "that cometh in the name of the Lord" to be a Saviour which is Christ, the Lord. Surely a great prophet is once more revealed, and "God hath visited His people!"

The question that the heart now asks is, What form of gratitude is that which we can take to *prove* our thankfulness for the wonderful gifts of the Lord unto the children of men? Surely, if the Lord, or any of His creatures, hath need of our poor humble praises and service He and they shall have these for His sake.

Among the data commemorated during the month of December beside that greatest and surpasing event, the Incarnation of Divinity, stands the birth of that eminent Luther Leaguer of his day—Gustavus Adolphus, the noble Protestant hero of the "Thirty Years' War." He was the son of the brilliant King of Sweden, Charles IX, and grandson of Gustavus I, surnamed Vasa, famous as being the founder of modern Sweden. Gustavus II was born December 9, 1594; and, as the "Snow-king" from the north, fulfilled a wonderful mission, in the effort he made to liberate Protestantism from the Papal yoke that was so grievous and unjust.

And where is the earnest reader of the story of the Reformation that does not know that on December 10, in 1520, at the Vester gate of Wittenberg, Luther cast into the flames the Papal decree that presumed to be able to cut him off from the Church, by an authority which he had found to be entirely artificial and arrogant?

An exchange in commenting on "Our Christmas Gifts," says:

"Scarcely had our Lord appeared in Bethlehem, when the wise men from the East appeared bearing gifts. The Scriptures do not reveal what use was made of those gifts and it is not essential to know, but it is very safe to assume that they were most acceptable to the little homeless family. Our Lord

does not look so closely at the gift, as at the giver. If the tributes we bring are accompanied by love and good will, they are acceptable. If we offer the best we have, no more is asked. The poorest gift, if offered in love, and involving sacrifice on our part, is graciously accepted, while the richest gift may prove unacceptable because we withhold the love and refuse to sacrifice ourselves.

"The gifts which we offer our friends this Christmas should be measured not by the length of our purses, but by the measure of our love. Let the loving greeting and the word of cheer go with the gift. It is that our love. Let the loving greeting and the New Year happy. When the mercantile spirit prevails, when we look upon the occasion as a lottery in which we hope to come out ahead, it is time to abolish the custom of giving altogether. Let us this Christmas, instead of indulging in a perfunctory exchange of embroidered slippers, dressing gowns, etc., regardless of the real needs or wants of the recipients, select our gifts thoughtfully, and, above all, give largely of ourselves."

The *Ladies' Home Journal* says: "The books that help a young man, or anybody else for that matter, are the books that interest him. Therefore a young man must select his own reading, if he is to read with any profit to himself." Can a young man make any better selection of books than those of the Luther League Reading Course? In these he will read with profit about his Church, and it will make him a better Christian. Learn something about your own Church. Knowledge is important in imparting loyalty, and the Church can be made better and stronger by the knowledge gained from the reading course.

Sunday Advertising

In these days, when the failure to observe the Lord's Day is noticeable even among those who profess to be His followers, it is refreshing to find the advertising manager of a large business manufactory expressing himself in the following language, when asked about the use of the Sunday papers for the spreading of his goods:

"I oppose them on common sense as well as moral grounds. I don't believe in anything which creates work on Sundays, holding that no man can give the best that is in him who does not get entirely away from himself one full day in seven. I have never advertised in a Sunday paper, on both accounts, and never shall. One day I was approached by a solicitor for one of the so-called 'yellow' Sunday sheets. He wished to have me perfume the entire edition, Colgate & Co. to receive the credit. I told him that we had not enough perfumery in all our vats to make the odor of their sheet acceptable. He wished to demonstrate how few gallons would be required for his purpose. But I finally, to his indignation, got him to understand my view of the matter."

The Knowledge of Men

In a recent interview with the proprietor of *The Iron Age* he expressed himself as to the progress of what is said to be the best trade paper in America, and his connection with it, in these words:

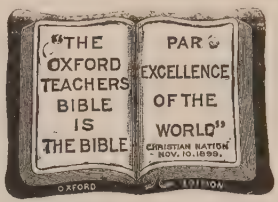
"I attribute my personal success partly to the fact that I very soon found out that the work of other people with which I was satisfied was always better than my own work with which I was satisfied. I have been called a good judge of men, but I am conscious of not knowing so much of them as I am believed to know. I try men in small places first, and, as they prove competent or incompetent, advance them or put them into suitable minor places. A man who cannot run fast freight trains may make an excellent brakeman."

If the same principle were followed in church and religious work how many more helpers we would have, and how much more our work would advance. Knowledge of men, and a fair trial of them, go far to make the success of any organization.

Luther League Theses

Last month mention was made in these columns that the Luther League Theses presented to the General Council in 1899 and referred to the various District Synods for discussion had been adopted. We are informed that this was an error, and that the entire matter had been disposed of without any action, the committee being discharged.

Lutheran Leader says: "The Oxford is ahead of all others."



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Real Enjoyment in Truth Only

Praise, honor and respect—these are sweet to all men. It is not surprising to us that they are sweet to the man who deserves them. They are the rewards of noble action, high character, real worth. As the laborer is proud and happy at the close of the day to receive his wages, feeling that he has earned what he receives and that it is all his own, and honorably his own, so the man who has, and knows he has, the honor and respect of the community, and who receives the praise of his friends, and knows it is justly his, cannot but be delighted.

—We have previously referred to the organ which Messrs. Muller & Abel, the famous organ builders, of Second avenue and Twenty-second street, New York, have constructed for Zion's Church, Brooklyn, of which Rev. E. C. J. Kraeling is the pastor. As this instrument, which cost $9,000, is without doubt not only the largest and most expensive, but also the finest and most powerful organ in any Lutheran Church in Greater New York, and ranks consequently as one of the greatest organs in use by Lutherans in America, we will give a brief detailed description of it. It is a three manual organ and is located in the gallery over the entrance to the church, the console being so extended that the organist faces the choir. The organ is 25 feet wide, 9 feet deep and 24 feet high, and contains 38 speaking stops, 4 mechanical accessories and 12 pedal movements, making a total of 61 stops and appliances, the pipes numbering in all 2,577. There are 283 tubes, running from every key; the stops, &c., to the different parts of the instrument and their continued length is 14,150 feet, or nearly 3 miles of tubing in this one organ. One of the most noticeably unusual effects is the arrangement by which 30 out of the 38 speaking stops are under the influence of the two swell pedals, which can be operated independently or simultaneously by either foot. The voicing, on which depends the success of the organ, combines all the best points of the European schools. This great instrument as a whole is truly representative of the perfection to which the art of organ building has advanced, and is a monument to the genius of Messrs. Muller & Abel, its builders.

Our Churches and Institutions

IN SOME OF THE LARGE CITIES

New York City

— On Tuesday evening, December 3, a farewell reception was tendered to Bishop von Sheele in Gustavus Adolphus Church. A large audience was present. Addresses were delivered by Drs. G. F. Krotel and G. U. Wenner. Rev. Mauritz Stolpe, the pastor, received an unusual honor, being decorated by the Bishop with the Royal Order of Vasa.

— On Sunday, December 8, the Church of the Atonement, West 140th street and Edgecombe avenue, Rev. F. H. Knubel, pastor, celebrates its fifth anniversary. The congregation is endeavoring to raise $40,000 to complete its church edifice. About $35,000 has been subscribed, principally through the untiring efforts of the pastor. The edifice when complete will be valued at about $80,000. Great strides have been made by the congregation in the five years of its existence, and the future is indeed very bright.

— George H. Beyer, a well-known Lutheran of this city and an old and active member of St. James' Church, died at his home, 12 East Seventy-second street, on November 19, aged 82 years.

— Installation services were held in St. John's Church (Christopher street) on Sunday, December 1, when Rev. F. Brezinski was installed as assistant pastor.

— One of the buildings on the grounds of the Wartburg Farm School, at Mount Vernon, erected several years ago by the late Charles Hauselt, was totally destroyed by fire on the 29th ult. The loss is about $10,000 and is covered by the insurance. Steps will at once be taken to rebuild. There are now 207 children in the Home.

Philadelphia

— The appearance of the city at Broad and Arch streets has undergone a notable change. The Church of the Holy Communion has been entirely removed to give place to a structure for business uses. Dr. Seiss now holds services in the Witherspoon Building, on Chestnut street.

— Rev. N. R. Melhorn, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Incarnation, reports that the architect has completed drawings for the new church building of the mission to be erected in West Philadelphia.

— Another General Conference of the Lutherans of the General Synod, General Council and United Synod South will be held in this city for three days, beginning March 25. The sessions will be divided between two representative churches of the General Council and the General Synod.

Washington

— St. Mark's Church, Rev. John C. Bowers, pastor, celebrated the fifth anniversary of its reorganization on November 24, 25. Rev. H. H. Weber, secretary of our Church Extension Board, delivered the address of Monday evening.

Chicago

— The Lutheran Women's League of this city held its last quarterly meeting October 26. Mrs. C. R. Matson, the president, presided and made an appropriate address. Papers were read by Mrs. E. F. Welge on "Luther and the Reformation," and on "Settlement Work" by Miss Esther Gerberding. A feature of the programme was the presentation of "Current Events" by representatives of the General Bodies. At this meeting "Current Events" of the General Council, General Synod and Hauge Synod were read. A musical programme was furnished by members of Rev. Evald's congregation.

— The Passavant Memorial Hospital will open to the public on Decoration Day a large addition to the present excellent hospital building. The addition consists of a four-story wing and a top story to the former back building. The Nurses' Training School recently held its graduating exercises in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Rev. Dr. Hunton, pastor. Seven young women were graduated. Lutheran young women will find here a liberal and excellent school in which to be trained if they desire to be competent Christian nurses.

— A most successful public reception was tendered to Bishop Von Scheele and Lady Von Scheele by the Lutheran Ministers' Association of Chicago on Wednesday evening, November 27, in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Rev. Dr. Hunton, pastor. Addresses and music in the auditorium were followed by refreshments and toasts in the church parlors.

Memorial Stained Glass Windows

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Nov 20, 1900.

Messrs. Mayer & Co.:

GENTLEMEN—The six stained glass windows ordered from your firm are now in place in Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, and it gives me great pleasure to say that they are entirely satisfactory to all concerned. Each window is a work of art, and beside teaching as they do beautiful lessons from the life of the Saviour they form a most appropriate adornment to our new Church. Trusting they may be the means of securing you other orders, I am sincerely yours,

WILLIAM SANFT, Ev. Lutheran Pastor.

MAYER & CO., 47 Barclay St., New York.

— The student chorus of the Chicago Theological Seminary rendered the vesper service at the Holy Trinity Church on the evening of the Passavant Hospital nurses' graduation.

— The Norwegian Hauge Synod held its first English Mission meeting in Trinity Church, Chicago, on November 5 and 6. Eight of the ministers of the Synod were present. Another meeting of a similar nature is to be held in the month of May next year. This would seem to imply that this Synod is in earnest about taking care of the young people of its communion.

— St. Mark's Church, Chicago, has installed a new vested choir. The pastor is Rev. Z. N. Corbet.

— The Chicago Synod pastors held a missionary convention in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Rev. Hunton, pastor, December 11 and 12. A feature of the convention was the rendering of the vesper service by the united choirs of the English churches.

— The treasurer of the Lutheran Sunday School Association of Chicago is Mr. M. C. Olson, our well known former general secretary of the L. L. of A.

— At the last annual convention of the Sunday School Association of Chicago Rev. Dr. Hunton delivered the address on "The Sunday School—Its Course of Study."

St. Louis

— On December 8 St. Mark's Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Mo., will celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of Dr. Rhodes' pastorate.

Jersey City

— The fifth anniversary of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, Jersey City, N. J., Rev. E. E. Neudewitz, pastor, was appropriately celebrated on November 10 and 11. Rev. M. J. Kline, D.D., preached in the morning and Rev. H. H. Weber on Monday evening.

Rochester

— The Hon A. J. Rodenbeck, a director of Wagner College, was elected Mayor of the city at the recent election.

Charleston

— A chime of ten bells has been presented to St. Matthew's German Lutheran Church, Rev. W. A. C. Mueller, D.D., pastor, by the Bell Society, composed of members of the congregation. The bells are exact duplicates of the chimes in Grace P. E. Church tower in New York City. They were dedicated on November 3.

Savannah

— The Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Savannah, Ga., celebrated on Sunday, November 3, the ninth anniversary of the pastor, Rev. W. C. Schaeffer, D.D., who preached a special sermon on the occasion to an unusually large congregation. Dr. Schaeffer took charge as pastor when the congregation was in debt to the amount of $7,000, and now not only has this debt been entirely canceled, but splendid improvements to church property costing as much more have been made and paid for. At the "Rally Day" exercises of the Sunday school at night the annual report of Mr. C. E. Stanton, secretary and treasurer, was submitted. It shows that there was an increase of attendance of 852 over last year and an increase in collections of $419.93. It showed, also, that during the past year there had been many improvements made to the Sunday school room and additions to its library and stock of hymn books.

Newark

— On Sunday, November 3, a new English Lutheran Church, to be known as St. James' Church, was opened on Belleville avenue, opposite Second avenue, in the northern portion of the city of Newark, N. J. The church building is neat and comfortable, and furnished with every necessary for worship. This building has been leased for a term of 18 months by the many Lutherans interested in this new mission. Rev. J. Melvn Killian, formerly of Smithsburg, Md., is in charge of the work. At the opening service, which was conducted by Rev. Eugene E. Neudewitz of Jersey City, Rev. Drs. J. B. Remensnyder and J. J. Young of New York City, Revs. John H. Heindel of Jersey City and Fred. C. Kraft of Elizabeth, N. J., made addresses. Rev. E. W. Fulper of Jersey City read the lessons.

MISCELLANY

— Another corner stone laying in the Northwest, and in Wisconsin, too, took place on Sunday, October 27, when, in the presence of an audience drawn from Racine, Milwaukee and Kenosha, Rev. G. F. Gehr, pastor, thrice struck the stone and pronounced the name of the "First English Lutheran Church of Racine" to be "The Church of the Holy Communion." Rev. Prof. E. F. Krauss of the Chicago Theological Seminary gave a popular exegesis or unfolding of the text about the true "Corner Stone," which is Jesus Christ.

— Twenty years ago Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan., was founded by the Kansas Conference of the Augustana Synod. Rev. Dr. C. A. Swenson was made the president and has held the position ever since. Large and commodious buildings were erected at once, which involved the college in a larger debt. For a number of years the crops of Kansas were almost a failure and but little money could be collected for the institution. In consequence the college was in a depressed state for many years. But times grew better, the crops of Kansas improved, and the authorities of the college, with Dr. Swenson at the head, made strenuous efforts to get the college on a better financial basis, and with the divine blessing they succeeded. The institution is now financially safe and has secured the confidence of many friends. The number of students is increasing from year to year, and has gone beyond the 600 mark. From November 10 to 12 the institution celebrated the twentieth anniversary of its existence. On the afternoon of the 9th strangers began to arrive in Lindsborg, and kept coming until the number is estimated to have reached 2,500. Among the more prominent guests were Bishop and Lady Von Scheele. F. W. Stanley, Governor of Kansas.

— The twenty-fifth aniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. F. Richards at Zanesville, Ohio, was celebrated during the week beginning with Advent Sunday.

(*Continued on page 32.*)

The "Four Track News" is an addition to New York Central Railroad literature. It is a neat illustrated pamphlet published under the direction of George H. Daniels, general passenger agent. The "Four Track News" will be published monthly and will contain timely notes of travel, interesting information regarding transportation and its development, and brief notes on books of travel. An interesting item in the little book is an account of the growth of the New York Central lines from 1831 to the present time. Copies of the "Four Track News" may be obtained by sending a two-cent stamp to Mr. Daniels' office.

Luther League

SEND IN THE NEWS.—Under this heading we aim to give the fullest reports possible of all District and Local Leagues. Secretaries and other officers are earnestly solicited to send in reports and items of news promptly.

Luther League of America

Organized at Pittsburgh, Pa., October 30 and 31, 1895, by delegates representing State, District and individual organizations from twenty different States in the Union and the District of Columbia.

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IMPORTANT

In order that the Statistical Secretary of the Luther League of America may have a complete list of every society connected with the National organization, the President and Corresponding Secretary of every local organization and of every Central or District organization are requested to send names and addresses of their officers to him at once and proper blanks will be forwarded for additional information. Address Charles K. Hunton, 440 So. 18th Street, Columbus, Ohio.

NEW YORK STATE

New York City

—The Luther League of New York City held its bi-monthly business meeting at St. Mark's Church on Tuesday evening, November 19. In the absence of the president and the vice-president I. S. Runyon presided. The reports of committees and of delegates from two or three Leagues brought forth much interesting discussion, and occasioned the appointment of some special committees with a view to strengthening the societies and helping to render their work uniform and more effective. A committee was appointed to make nominations for the offices for next year. This committee will report at the next meeting, which occurs on January 20, 1902, at the Church of the Epiphany, 72 East 128th street, when the election will take place.

—The Young People's Society of Gustavus

Adolphus Church, at its meeting on November 15, decided to donate $50 to the church for the sinking and interest fund.

Brooklyn Central

— The Central Luther League of Brooklyn held its regular meeting Monday evening, November 18, 1901, at St. Stephen's Church of Vandeveer Park. The meeting was well attended by representatives of all the Leagues of Brooklyn. After the reports of the officers and business transaction the League was favored by an excellent address by Rev. I. F. W. Kitzmeyer of Bethany Church, New York, which was very interesting. The report of Miss E. Allers, delegate to the New York State convention at Rochester, was received with a vote of thanks. Next meeting will be at Emanuel's Church Monday, December 16. The Brooklyn and New York Central Leagues expect to meet in the near future, in order to have the members become better acquainted with each other.

— On Sunday evening, November 24, the Luther League of St. Paul's Church, South Fifth and Rodney streets, Rev. H. W. Hoffmann, Ph.D., pastor, celebrated its tenth anniversary. The anniversary exercises were of an unusually interesting character and began with words of greeting by Walter T. Voege, president of the League. A history of the League was read by the secretary, William W. Oest. Addresses were made by Mr. John Kopp, one of the charter members of the League, who is about to graduate at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia; Mr. George P. Moller, president of the Brooklyn Central League; Mr. George D. Boschen, president of the New York State League, and Mr. E. F. Eilert, former president of the National League and Editor of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW. The devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. Hoffmann, who also spoke words of encouragement to the young people. Excellent musical selections were rendered during the evening under the direction of Mr. Fred. Middendorf. The League is the largest of any in Greater New York, nearly 300 members. They have aided in the support of a theological student for a number of years and are active in all church work. The officers of the League are: Walter T. Voege, pres.; Anthony E. Wills, vice-pres.; William W. Oest, sec.; Augusta M. Gross, fin. sec.; Minnie E. Himmelreich, treas.

Rhinebeck District

— The twenty-third convention of the Luther League of the Rhinebeck District, which was held in Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Viewmonte, N. Y., on Tuesday, November 29, was a pleasant and profitable occasion. The first session was opened at 2 p.m. The opening service was conducted by Rev. Paul Koller of Hudson. The address of welcome was given by Rev. W. E. Traver, the pastor, in a cordial informal manner, and was responded to by Rev. Bacher of Rondout. The echoes from our State convention were given by our five delegates in five-minute papers. "The Woman's Work in the Church," by Miss M. E. Stupplebeen of Hudson, gave the thought that woman was included in the command to do whatsoever her hands find to do in the church. "How to Make Our League Meetings Profitable," by Mr. George Snyder of Rondout, emphasized the literary and social means to bring the young people together. The paper on "Christian Service in the League," by Miss Ora E. Cudney of Catskill, suggested that our service be a more consecrated spiritual one, taking for our example Christ. Rev. U. H. Graves of Valatie, in his talk on "Christian Service in the Sunday School," said that care should be exercised in selecting teachers, that we instruct the young in the right way. Rev. E. A. Ottman of Ghent gave some "general impressions of the convention," that we should be true to our Church and that the Lutheran hymns were of the highest order in phraseology. The music was a marked feature of the convention, where 40 boys were engaged in singing. An open parliament on the above papers and miscellaneous business completed this session. The second session was held at 7.30 p.m. After the usual opening service an address was given by Rev. R. C. Wright, Wurtemburg, N. Y., on the subject, "At the Foot of Eddystone." The address was very practical and showed deep thought and careful study. He said a Christian was like a lighthouse. They were to give light and save life, and they were to keep their faces ever toward Christ, the Great Light Giver. The address was replete with helpful suggestions. A solo rendered by Mrs. George Ancock was particularly pleasing. After the report of Committee on Resolutions and the Luther League rally hymn this convention, which we consider one of the most pleasing, instructive and hopeful ever held in this district, adjourned, to hold its next meeting in Hudson.

IDA MAY UHRIE, Cor. Sec.

D. & H. District

— At the annual meeting of the Luther League of the English Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Binghamton, Rev. M. J. Bieber, pastor, the following officers were elected: Pres., W. H. Rector; vice-pres., Jacob Warner; rec. sec., May Bradt; cor. sec., Eva Oswald; treas., Edna Mathis. The League lately subscribed for 30 copies of the REVIEW. It meets on Wednesday evening, and the sessions are well attended, interesting and profitable.

Buffalo League

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auspices of the Central Luther League of Buffalo, N. Y., was held at St. John's Church, Hickory street, Rev. J. A. W. Kirsch, pastor, Sunday evening, November 10. Addresses were made by Rev. T. H. Becker, a panorama of Luther's life, "Eisleben, Eisenach and Wittenberg," and by Dr. T. W. Kretschman, influence of Luther's life, "A Historic Scene."

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Central

—To stimulate interest in such work and to gather information for intelligent service the Young People's Association of St. Mark's Church, Spring Garden street, above Thirteenth, the Rev. Samuel Laird, D.D., pastor, arranged with the Rev. J. F. Ohl, Mus. D., City Missionary of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania, for a course of instruction in Christian work, which began on Thursday evening, November 14, 1901, at 8 o'clock, and will continue on the same evening of the week during the winter, excepting the evening of Thanksgiving Day.

Allentown District

—East Butler Luther League, Rev. C. A. Kirschner, pastor, is not yet one year old. It meets every week, uses Luther League Topics and subscribes for 12 copies of the REVIEW. Very interesting meetings are held with a good attendance. The membership is 65. A very appropriate service was held on Reformation Day. The League celebrates its anniversary on December 14. The officers are Chas. Brighthaupt, pres.; Anna Cunnius, vice-pres.; Getty Cunnius, sec.; Solomon Smith, treas.; Dora Mochamer, organist.

Upper Lehigh Valley League

—The first session of the fifteenth semiannual convention of the central Luther League of the Upper Lehigh Valley was opened in Trinity Church, West Hazleton, on Tuesday, October 29, at 10 a.m. The opening services were conducted by Rev. E. J. Kenling, Weatherby. The address of welcome, delivered by Rev. E. F. Ritter, pastor loci, was responded to by the president, Rev. J. J. Kuntz, Freeland. The reports of the president and treasurer were heard. Under the former it was resolved to donate $50 for the support of the North Scranton Mission, $50 to the Audenreid-Beaver Meadow parish, and to take a life membership in the Church Extension Fund. The fund of the treasury was found to contain $282.14, receipts; expenditures, $49.63, leaving a balance in the treasury of $232.51. Rev. E. F. Ritter, delegate to the State convention, held at Shamokin, gave his report. A paper was read on "How to Read and Study the Bible Advantageously," by Miss Cora Shupp, and another on "The Delegates at the Convention," by Mr. Chas. Breithaupt. The second session opened at 2 p.m. with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. C. A. Kerschner, Conyngham. A paper on "The Officers and Members of the Model League," by Mrs. Ira E. Seidle, and another on "The Literature of the Model League," by Mr. Rudolph Tiedeman. Prof. G. W. Gilbert rendered an instrumental selection. An essay on "The Methods of Work in a Model Luther League" was read by Miss Flora Cand, and two on "The Finances of the Model League" by Miss Mary Steward and Miss Martha Miethle. An address on "The Proper Place in the Church and Congregation of the Model League" was delivered by Rev. A. O. Ebert, Audenried. The third session opened at 7.30 p.m. with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. O. Schlenker, Hazleton, after which the following programme was rendered: An address on "The Reformation and Its Present Fruits" was delivered by Rev. Dr. W. M. Rehrig, Mauch Chunk; another on "What Can a Young Man Do for His Church?" by Mr. John Stark, Weissport, and one on "What Can a Young Lady Do for Her Church?" by Miss Gussie Heyer. Prof. G. W. Gilbert rendered an instrumental selection, and a vocal duet was sung by Professor Gilbert and Arvilla Straub. An address on "Die Kirche und die Jugend" was delivered by Rev. C. A. Kerschner, Conyngham. Rev. A. C. Wuchter favored the convention with two original poems in Pennsylvania German. An address was delivered on "Distinctive Features of the Lutheran Church" by Rev. E. J. Kenling. Question Box by Rev. J. H. Kuder. The fourth session opened at 8.30 a.m., October 30, with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. H. Kuder. An invitation extended by the Mauch Chunk League to hold the spring meeting was accepted by the Central. Rev. Rehrig gave a short talk on "The Teachers' Sunday School Manual," and urged such members as are active in Sunday school work to procure the same in order to prepare themselves for Sunday school teachers. An essay was read on "How to Establish and Interest Junior Leagues" by Miss Lindenberger. Rev. J. H. Kuder gave a short address on "How to Conduct a Luther League Reading Course;" another on "The League and Mission Work on Our Own Territory" by Rev. J. O. Schlenker. A paper was read on "How to Interest the Older People in the League Work" by Ernest Enke; another on "The New Century and the League's Opportunity" by Chas. Bruch; another on "Benefits of the League to Its Members" by Miss Cora Knelly. The delegates were royally entertained by members of the West Hazleton League. The church was neatly decorated with the Luther League colors.

—Trinity Luther League of West Hazleton.

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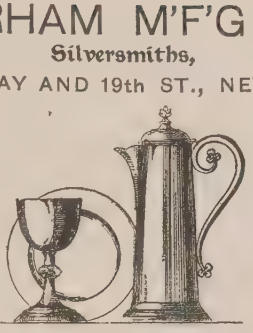

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Rev. E. F. Ritter, pastor, enjoys a membership of 35, which is steadily increasing. Meetings are held every Sunday evening before the church service. They have the foundation for a good library, which they expect to reach 200 volumes shortly.

Reading Central

— Grace Luther League elected the following officers at its annual meeting, September 26: Pres., F. G. Dietrich; first vice-pres., Howard I. Eiler; second vice-pres., H. H. Wannes; rec. sec., Ella Printz; cor. sec., Laura Haring; fin. sec., Lily M. Sleath; treas., Geo. H. Kiehl. A choral society has been formed by members of the League.

— St. James' Young People's Guild held its annual meeting on October 3, when the following officers were chosen: Pres., H. H. Hernan; vice-pres., Wm. Hinkley; rec. sec., Alice R. Hemmig; fin. sec., Mary Obold; treas., Annie Eisenhower; organist, Gertrude Drexel. The Guild will hold literary and social entertainments during the winter in connection with the business meetings.

— Bethany Luther League, Rev. W. A. Snyder, pastor, has arranged for an interesting course of lectures during the winter.

— A Luther League has been organized in Christ Church, Oley, Rev. E. S. Brownmiller, D D., pastor. It starts out with 65 members, all active workers, and is destined to be very successful.

— Rev. J. H. Raker has organized a Luther League of 5 members in Topton Orphans' Home, of which he is superintendent.

Williamsport Central

— The fourth annual meeting of the Williamsport Central Luther League was held in the Lutheran Church of Hughesville, Pa., Rev. J. H. Barb, D.D., pastor, on November 7 and 8, 1901. As the territory was at first covered by the Luther Alliance for a while and then fell under the control of the Christian Endeavor largely, there are not many local Luther Leagues. The Christian Endeavor societies mostly stand off from the Central and prefer

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to affiliate with other denominations. This makes our progress slow and difficult, yet we are making commendable progress. We had an excellent programme, which was well carried out. Two well prepared papers were read and were highly appreciated. Rev. J. M. Anspach, D. D., of Williamsport read the first paper, on the topic "The Church and Her Young People." D. W. Shollenberger of Montgomery read the second paper, on the topic "The Young People and Their Church." The other topics were opened for discussion by the following: "Importance of the Luther League Movement," by Rev. J. W. Lake, D.D., of Montgomery; "The Luther League as a Factor in Developing Our Young People in Church Work," by Rev. Foster W. Gift, Newberry; "The Luther League as a Factor in Developing Our Young People in Becoming Acquainted With the History and Doctrine of Our Church," by Rev. J. M. Anspach, D.D., in the absence of Rev. H. E. C. Wharmann of Turbotville; "Individual Responsibility of Our Young People With Reference to Christian Life," by Rev. L. L. Lohr of Williamsport; "Individual Responsibility of Our Young People With Reference to Christian Work," by Rev. J. G. Griffith of Montoursville. These topics were all well discussed, and proved highly instructive and entertaining. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Pres., Rev. J. M. Remensnyder, D.D., of Milton; treas., Rev. J. W. Lake, D.D., of Montgomery; statistical sec., D. W. Shollenberger of Montgomery; rec. sec., Miss Bowersox of Jersey Shore. The good Lutherans of Hughesville made us welcome among them and took a great interest in our meetings.

— The Luther League of St. Matthew's, Williamsport, Rev. Foster U. Gift, pastor, has organized for the winter. It has a membership of some 30 and is in a flourishing condition.

— The Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Williamsport, Rev. J. S. Griffith, pastor, was recently organized, with the following officers: Frank R. Stroehlen, pres.; Margaret Van Forren, sec., and Jessie Fulmer, treas.

— St. Paul's Luther Alliance elected the following officers on November 11: Pres., Fred. Reben; vice-pres., Nellie C. Pott; rec. sec., Joyce Graybill; cor. sec., Mabel Mohr; treas., Roscoe Long.

— Williamsport has 11 Lutheran churches, all of which save one have young people's societies.

Pittsburgh Central

— The Luther League Central met in semi-annual convention in Emanuel Lutheran Church, Rev. J. M. Guss, pastor, Etna, a suburb of the city. The convention was composed largely of young people. One of the essayists, Miss Emma McDaniel, who wrote on "Junior Work," was from the Junior department. Her paper elicited a general discussion of the merits of the Junior literature. Mrs. S. N. Carpenter's paper on "Reading Course" met a full discussion. Some thought the courses a little heavy, while others looked to the time when books will be written especially for the courses by Lutheran authors. The books must be made readable for young Lutherans. "Co-operation of Luther Leagues," by Miss Sumpter, touched the question of apathy on the part of some pastors toward the young people's societies and of some Leagues toward the Central and the general work. Various suggestions were made. One was "to pray for them," but no certain remedy was found. After a luncheon at 5.30 p.m., and a very pleasant social hour, renewal of old acquaintances, comparison of notes and making up of committees by the officials the evening session began with an anthem by the Lutheran Choral Union of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and vicinity. Rev. C. A. Boory led the vespers. Mr. Everstone spoke on "Relation of Young People's Organizations to the Church." He rightly held they are a part of the Church and amenable to the councils and constituted authorities of the Church. He compared the "infant department" of the Sunday school as a department, not a separate school. Rev. L. D. Reed emphasized the same line of thought. Rev. J. A. Zundel, Beaver Falls, followed on "True Zeal of a Leaguer." It was not a misdirected zeal that copied the world and sinful methods in Church work, but a scriptural zeal filled with determination to win souls for Christ. A zeal directed by the Holy Spirit in building up the true faith. The offertory anthem by Choral Union and concluding vesper service. A vote of thanks followed and the announcement that the Central had accepted the invitation of the Junior League of Grace Church, Rev. G. I. Lenker, pastor, Allegheny, to hold next convention, May 2, 1902, in that church. This is the first time in the history of the Pittsburg Central to be invited by a Junior League. The officers are Rev. J. M. Guss, Etna, pres.; Miss Emma A. King, Allegheny, sec.; Mrs. Anna Shanor, Allegheny, treas. Three new Leagues were received. Finances are in good condition and the work is hopeful and growing.

— A Junior Luther League was recently organized in Trinity Church, Verona.

— Rev. E. O. Graham has organized two Luther Leagues, one at Tarentum, with 16 members, and one at Springdale, with 22 members.

— The Senior Luther League of Verona, Rev. R. E. McDaniel, pastor, is one of the most interesting Leagues in the State. They use the Topics and the Reading Course. The officers are: Pres., J. N. Schwartz; vice-pres., A. E. Richardson; sec., Miss S. H. Murdock; cor. sec., J. C. Kimpel; treas., Miss Angeline Jack.

OHIO

— The members of the Luther League of Rev. Uber's congregation at Columbiana recently raised $16 for the poor students' fund.

— The Y. P. S. C. E. of St. Paul's Church of Bucyrus, Rev. Clarence E. Gardner, pastor, has been reorganized as a Luther League.

MISCELLANEOUS

— A Luther League is contemplated in the Ebenezer Church of Rev. G. B. Schmitt's charge of Malott Park, Ind.

— The Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Milwaukee, Wis., has decided to adopt the Luther League Topics instead of asking the pastor to furnish the material.

— A church bell and new pews are to be placed in our Church at Stromsburg, Neb. The former has been ordered and is to be paid for by the Young People's Society of the church. The latter have also been sent for and will be redeemed by the proceeds of the work of the Ladies' Sewing Society.

— The Luther League of the Church of Holy Trinity, Jersey City, Rev. E. E. Neudewitz, pastor, celebrated its fifth anniversary on November 12.

— The Young Men's Luther Union of the First Church, Louisville, Ky., has been reorganized.

— One of the events of interest at the ninth anniversary exercises of the Church of the Ascension, Savannah, Ga., was the presentation to Rev. Dr. Schaeffer of a handsome silver private communion service. The presentation was made on behalf of the Luther League by Mr. Fred. Wessels, Jr., its president. Dr. Schaeffer was as pleased as surprised. He declared that the gift, particularly the spirit that prompted it, was the crowning joy of his ninth anniversary day.

— A Luther League was recently organized in St. James' Church, Portland, Ore., Rev. J. A. Leas, pastor, with 32 charter members. Mrs. J. A. Leas was elected president; Miss Hildegarde Allmen, secretary. A League had existed some years ago, but on Rev. Zweizig's resignation was abandoned. The present League aims to follow the line of the Reading Course and devotes its funds to the support of the Sunday school library. A District League is a probability of the not very distant future.

MINNESOTA

— The seventh convention of the Twin City Central Luther League was held in St. Peter's Danish Church, Minneapolis, Minn., on November 25, and was called to order by one of its vice-presidents, Mr. Nels Jensen, at 10 o'clock a.m. Devotional services were conducted by Rev. Trabert. The convention was heartily welcomed by Rev. Pederson, being responded to by Rev. Haupt. A paper was read by Mr. Nels Jensen on "How Does Your League Benefit by Its Connection with the T. C. C. L. L.?" in which he gave a brief but very interesting history of his own League, showing what benefit it had derived from its connection therewith, how the conventions are the greatest helps, but the League should be fully represented and the delegates to take active part in discussions and take home reports so as to benefit those not able to attend. At the afternoon session an able paper was read by Rev. C. L. Warstler on "How Can the Individual Benefit the Church at Large?" a discussion following in which Revs. Warstler, Ramsey, Haupt and Trabert and Mr. Nels Jensen took part. An interesting paper written by Mr. B. N. Lambert, on "Self Reliance of Leagues," was read by Miss Ruth Trabert, followed by a very general discussion. Appropriately following all united in singing three verses of "Onward, Christian Soldiers." The annual election followed and resulted as follows: Mr. Nels Jensen, pres.; Jennie R. Caines, rec. sec.; Miss Lydia Lagerstrom, cor. sec.; M. S. Kindseth, treas. The evening session opened at 8 o'clock by singing the hymn, "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne," followed by the usual devotional service, conducted by Rev. Nothstein. "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" was sung with much spirit, being followed by an able paper by Rev. Lohre, in which he drew attention to numerous noted men of the world who openly submitted their wills to their Maker, and strongly contradicted Robert Ingersoll's statement "that all noted men were of unreligious minds." It was decided to extend an invitation to the Luther League of America to hold its next convention in the Twin Cities, and the president was instructed to appoint a committee on arrangements if the invitation is accepted. Rev. Haupt of St. Paul is to be chairman of said committee. The meeting then closed by singing the Luther League Rally Hymn and a brief, touching prayer by the president.

— The First Lutheran Church of Carlisle, Rev. G. M. Diffenderfer, was dedicated recently.

Church Items *(continued)*

— Rev. John Aberly and Mrs. Aberly sailed from New York on October 24 on the steamship "Koenigin Louise" for India. Private advices announce the safe arrival of Rev. L. B. Wolf, the principal of the Arthur G. Watts Memorial College in India.

— The Board of Foreign Missions of the General Council has asked permission of the Board of Foreign Missions of the General Synod for Rev. J. H. Harpster to work on our India field for the period of three years. Dr. Harpster, having been in India 12 years, is very well acquainted with the way in which missionary work should be done. In case the board asquiesces in the request Dr. Harpster will assume the superintendency of the field work.

— The General Council has appointed a special board for its Porto Rico Mission, with Rev. D. H. Geissinger, D.D., as president. This means to push the work on that island.

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The Junior Leagues

[Address All Communications for This Department to Rev. C. Elvin Haupt, D.D., Lancaster, Pa.]

A map of the United States, with a red cross locating each Junior League, would be an interesting study.

Many Junior Leagues are now busily engaged in learning the beautiful carols for Christmastide, or committing to memory the precious verses of the Bible-story of the Babe of Bethlehem. It is very, very old; yet ever new in its joy, its life and its blessedness.

Some of our Leagues have opened a sewing school in their midst, where the children meet to learn to sew and knit, while they sing the songs of Zion and hear a beautiful story, read by teacher or pupil. These meetings of the girls usually are held during Saturday, at some suitable place and hour. They may be made very helpful to mothers, very instructive to the young learners and a great blessing to the poor.

Is your League doing anything for the missionaries of the Lord?

Begin with the Juniors, and save them for the Church!

It is a beautiful sight to see a Junior League at work. It has a spirit that is all its own. We dare not, even if we would, neglect the social side of a child's nature. Hence the necessity and value of the development of it in every possible right way; doing for Christ the work given unto our hands to do.

There is nothing so pure, so ennobling, so useful in counteracting the loathsome evils of vice and immorality that prevail so powerfully in the life of our modern cities as the plain simple telling and living of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by those who know it best.

It is very encouraging to hear the reports coming in, from all directions, of the steady and large growth of our younger Church, of over 50,000 confirmed members each year for the past ten years. There are to-day upward of 3,000 young men in the 23 theological seminaries of the Lutheran Church in the United States, preparing themselves for their life-work, as ministers of the Holy Word and Sacraments in the faith of the Bible and the Augsburg Confession—a faith that is simply impregnable. In many of our Junior Leagues the seed is now being sown that will tell in future years, in both pulpit and pew, of a strong and vigorous activity; that will, by the help of God, far outnumber the 1,700,000 Lutheran communicants in our wonderful country in this opening year of the century.

Inner mission work means that somebody meets and invites some other body to "come along" and join in the worship and service of Christ Jesus in church, school and League. And what if you are one of those inviting, or agreeing, to come? All that is needed is the spirit of willingness. One Junior brings another, as a rule.

The habit of Family Prayer may be taught by the humble influence of many a Junior League.

The whistle of the eddying wind reminds us that snowy winter is here; with the glad comforts of the inner life of "home" in the Christian household. Ere another number of the Review shall flit over mountains and rivers, to brighten everywhere the coming of the new year, with its messages, jocund Christmas will have come and the train of happy children singing the answer of earth to the Gloria in Excelsis of the angels; while bells chime their mellow notes and the temple of the Holy One of Israel is garlanded to welcome the truth of a Saviour-God with us.

To every Junior Leaguer, every earnest Lutheran—aye, every godly soul, we hold out the wish for a Christmas as holy as it is truly "merry," and the hope that each may enjoy the larger blessedness of doing good to those who need it most.

Christmas

The time draws near the birth of Christ;
The moon is hid; the night is still;
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.

Four voices in four hamlets round,
From far and near, on mead and moor,
Swell out and fail, as if a door
Were shut between me and the sound;

Each voice four changes of the wind,
That now dilate, and now decrease;
Peace and goodwill, goodwill and peace,
Peace and goodwill, to all mankind.

Alfred Tennyson.